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## High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program Ionospheric Research Observatory holds open house on September 18

The public is invited to visit the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) Ionospheric Research Observatory, Sunday, Sept. 18, 2005, 1 – 5 p.m., in Gakona, Alaska, at Milepost 11.3 on the Tok Cutoff.

The site, administered by the Air Force Research Laboratory, Space Vehicles Directorate, Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., conducts upper atmospheric and solar-terrestrial studies.



During the open house, staff members and scientists will be available to describe on-going activities to complete the facility's unique High Frequency transmitting system and will discuss how it is being used, along with the site's variety of diagnostic instruments, to conduct pioneering ionosphere/radio-science research. In addition, van tours of the facility will occur every 30 minutes beginning at 1:30 p.m. Physics (fun!) demonstrations will also be held for the young-at-heart.

HAARP represents a scientific endeavor focused on investigating the properties and behavior of the ionosphere with emphasis on understanding and using it to improve communications and surveillance systems for both Dept. of Defense and civilian purposes. The world class ionospheric research facility consists of the ionospheric research instrument (IRI), which operates in the high frequency frequency range and is employed to temporarily excite a limited area of the ionosphere for scientific study. In addition, a complex suite of scientific/diagnostic instruments observe the physical processes occurring in the excited region.

Admission to the HAARP open house is free, and cameras will be allowed.

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